

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference WPP290037	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, Item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB2004/003013	International filing date (day/month/year) 12/07/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 25/07/2003
Applicant UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 4 sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 4

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/003013

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC 7 G06F19/00 G01N33/68

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G06F G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 800 085 A (ORTHO CLINICAL DIAGNOSTICS) 8 October 1997 (1997-10-08) abstract; claim 1; figure 1 page 2, line 3 - page 6, line 15 ----- -/--	1-32

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

3 August 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

11/08/2005

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/003013

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>BENATTAR C ET AL: "EFFICIENCY OF ULTRASOUND AND BIOCHEMICAL MARKERS FOR DOWN'S SYNDROME RISK SCREENING. A PROSPECTIVE STUDY" FETAL DIAGNOSIS AND THERAPY, KARGER, BASEL, CH, vol. 14, no. 2, 1999, pages 112-117, XP000872100 ISSN: 1015-3837 abstract; tables 1,2 page 113, left-hand column, paragraph 1 - right-hand column, paragraph 3 page 115, left-hand column, paragraph 2 - page 116, right-hand column, paragraph 1 -----</p>	1-32
A	<p>WO 99/56132 A (WALD, NICHOLAS, JOHN) 4 November 1999 (1999-11-04) cited in the application abstract; claim 1; tables 4a,4b page 7, line 3 - page 13, line 12 page 16, line 27 - page 22, line 23 -----</p>	1-32

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB2004/003013

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0800085	A	08-10-1997	AT 240525 T	15-05-2003
			AU 723148 B2	17-08-2000
			AU 1652597 A	02-10-1997
			DE 69721889 D1	18-06-2003
			DE 69721889 T2	17-06-2004
			DK 800085 T3	08-09-2003
			EP 0800085 A2	08-10-1997
			ES 2198532 T3	01-02-2004
			JP 10019889 A	23-01-1998
			PT 800085 T	30-09-2003
			US 5906944 A	25-05-1999
WO 9956132	A	04-11-1999	AU 763171 B2	17-07-2003
			AU 3621399 A	16-11-1999
			CA 2330538 A1	04-11-1999
			EP 1076824 A1	21-02-2001
			WO 9956132 A1	04-11-1999
			US 6573103 B1	03-06-2003
			US 2003175981 A1	18-09-2003